



News Release

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Heritage World Strides Music Festival

The St. James-Assiniboia Divisional Senior Concert Choir just returned from a trip to New York City, New York, USA after competing in the Heritage World Strides Music Festival. Competing against choral groups from all over North America, the Senior Concert Choir came home with a commendable number of trophies including:

1. Adjudicator's Award for having combined marks, from the three adjudicators, of over 95%
2. Gold medal standing for achieving above 90%
3. Outstanding Choral Award for **Top Choir of the Festival** - highest mark

This group of passionate singers range from 14-18 years old. They are directed by Avonlea Armstrong-Green and accompanied by Melody Koop. This dynamic duo brings out the absolute best out in these choristers. When they perform, one cannot help but sway, tap toes, clap hands, and at times, tear up with the emotion their voices exude through song.

The SJASD Senior Concert Choir is one of St. James-Assiniboia School Division's three Divisional choirs. The choir consists of 66 singers from Grades 9 through 12 and has a reputation of being one of Manitoba's premier youth choirs. During the 2017-2018 choral season the St. James-Assiniboia Senior Concert Choir performed at Choralfest Manitoba and the Winnipeg Music Festival. At Choralfest, the choir was recommended to MusicFest Canada. At the Winnipeg Music Festival, the choir was presented with a number of awards including the following:

- Walter Klymkiw Trophy and Walter Klymkiw Memorial Bursary for the most outstanding performance of a Folk or Multilingual Song by a Community Choir
- Caledonian Singers Peter Buchan Memorial Bursary for most outstanding performance by a Community Choir
- Saults and Pollard Limited Shield for the most outstanding performance by a youth Community Choir

"Music is the universal language of mankind" - Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

For more information, please contact:

Avonlea Armstrong-Green

Choral Director, St. James-Assiniboia Senior Divisional Choir

Phone: 204-888-0684

Email: aarmstronggreen@sjsd.net

Jackie Gagne

Coordinator of the Arts & The Integrated Arts

Phone: 204-837-5886 ext. 2109

Email: jgagne@sjsd.net